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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/720,499

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John Hal Howard

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EXAMINER

WHIPPLE, BRIAN P

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/720,499	Applicant(s) HOWARD ET AL.	
	Examiner Brian P. Whipple	Art Unit 2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are pending in this application and presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 11-12, filed 10/12/07, with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 112 (page 11) and 101 (page 12) rejections have been fully considered and are persuasive.

The 35 U.S.C. 112 and 101 rejections of the corresponding claims have been withdrawn.

3. Applicant's remaining arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3-10, and 13-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiche, U.S. Patent No. 6,092,196, in view of Alegre et al. (Alegre), U.S. Patent No. 6,199,113 B1.

6. As to claim 1, Reiche discloses a method for seeking access to a first server (Col. 8, ln. 47-52), the method comprising:

determining that a client seeking access to the first server is not authenticated by an authentication server (Col. 9, ln. 6-9 and 18-20);

communicating a request for login information to be returned to the authentication server from the client (Col. 9, ln. 21-26 and 38-39);

receiving the login information at the authentication server from the client (Col. 9, ln. 38-39);

authenticating the client by comparing the login information with authentication information maintained by the authentication server (Fig. 2b, *especially* items 224 and 226; Col. 9, ln. 39-45); and

when the login information matches the authentication information (Fig. 2b, *especially* items 224 and 226; Col. 9, ln. 39-45),

generating a user authentication indicator at the authentication server (Col. 9, ln. 39-45); and

sending the user authentication indicator to the first server (Col. 9, ln. 51-55;
Col. 10, ln. 1-3).

Reiche is silent on sending a user profile information associated with the login
information to the first server.

However, Alegre discloses sending a user profile information associated with login
information to a first server (Col. 6, ln. 17-22; this action is also performed in response to the
login information matching the authentication information, "UID and PWD are
authenticated").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to modify the teachings of Reiche by sending a user profile information associated
with login information to a first server as taught by Alegre in order to authenticate a user
and then link the user's authentication to the user's profile (Alegre: Col. 6, ln. 17-22).
Linking authentication to a user profile would result in known benefits such as storing a
user's authentication or creating a secure menu to a user based on the authentication and the
user's profile (Alegre: Col. 6, ln. 17-22, "creates a trusted network access menu page using the
user profile"); thereby enabling a trusted user to access a secure and personally tailored
menu.

7. As to claims 7, 16-17, and 20, the claims are rejected for reasons similar to claim 1 above.

8. As to claim 13, the claim is rejected for reasons similar to claim 1 above.

It is clear that if the authentication server maintains an authentication database and the user submits his user ID and password, that the user had to register said user ID and password with the authentication server (Reiche: Fig. 2b, *especially* items 224 and 226; Col. 9, ln. 28-30 and 38-45).

9. As to claim 14, the claim is rejected for reasons similar to claim 13 above.

10. As to claim 3, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including the user authentication indicator includes a time stamp indicating the last time the client's login information was refreshed (Reiche: Col. 10, ln. 11-15; Col. 11, ln. 53).

11. As to claim 4, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including the user authentication indicator includes a time stamp indicating the last time the client sent login information (Reiche: Col. 11, ln. 54).

12. As to claims 8 and 22-23, the claims are rejected for reasons similar to claims 3-4 above.

13. As to claim 5, the claim is rejected for similar reasons to claim 1 above.

Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including computer-readable memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor (Reiche: Fig. 1, *especially* items 115, 122, and 152; Col. 6, ln. 3-5).

14. As to claim 6, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including the login information is used to authenticate the client with respect to the authentication server but does not have to be transmitted to the first server to authenticate the client with respect to the first server (Reiche: Col. 9, ln. 6-9, 18-26, and 38-39).

15. As to claims 15 and 19, the claims are rejected for reasons similar to claim 6 above.

16. As to claim 9, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 7, including the network server includes a web server coupled to the Internet (Reiche: Col. 8, ln. 47-52).

17. As to claim 10, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 7, including the received login information includes a login ID and a password (Reiche: Col. 9, ln. 28-30).

18. As to claim 18, the claim is rejected for reasons similar to claim 10 above.

19. As to claim 21, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 20, including the network server is to deny access to the client if the user authentication indicator indicates that the client is not authenticated (Reiche: Fig. 2b, *especially* item 226 and the corresponding “No” branch leading to “E”; Fig. 2c, *especially* item 242 and the corresponding “No” branch leading to “E”; Col. 10, ln. 1-3).

20. Claims 2 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiche and Alegre as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, further in view of Kaufman et al. (Kaufman), U.S. Patent No. 5,418,854.

21. As to claim 2, Reiche and Alegre disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including the user authentication indicator (Reiche: Col. 10, ln. 1-3), but are silent on the indicator does not contain reference to the login information.

However, Kaufman discloses the user authentication indicator does not contain reference to the login information (Col. 4, ln. 3-19 and 33-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Reiche and Alegre by not including a reference to login information in a user authentication indicator as taught by Kaufman in order to protect the confidentiality of a user's password (Kaufman: Col. 4, ln. 3-5).

22. As to claims 11-12, the claims are rejected for reasons similar to claim 2 above.

Conclusion

23. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action.

In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

24. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian P. Whipple whose telephone number is (571)270-1244. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (9:30 AM to 6:00 PM EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Brian P. Whipple
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Examiner, Art Unit 2152
6/1/08

/Jeffrey Pwu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2146